

## STATE OF OKLAHOMA OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES

November 4, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch Office of the Secretary **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street SW Washington DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Secretary Dortch.

The Oklahoma Department of Libraries respectfully and enthusiastically supports the American Library Association's nomination of Linda Lord for appointment to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors to fill the library position.

Ms. Lord, who is Maine State Librarian, has been an active participant on both the state and federal levels supporting the wide adoption of advanced services and broadband adoption for libraries. She is an acknowledged expert on the topic and her experience in a state that is primarily rural and small communities is a very important perspective. Our own state has a similar population distribution. In my opinion, it is important for the USAC Board to consider the simplification of the program to allow more rural participation.

In addition to her responsibilities as Maine State Librarian, Ms. Lord serves as Chair of the American Library Association E-rate Task Force and has deep knowledge and experience with the federal E-rate program. Ms. Lord has also worked for the Maine Department of Education prior to becoming State Librarian so her experience and exposure also includes school and public libraries in communities of many different sizes. I believe Ms. Lord will be an articulate spokesperson for the implementation impact of USAC Board policies and practices.

My personal experience with her in our professional organization, the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, is that she is a person who is able to express herself well and is positive even when sharing differing views on a topic. She is able to work with people to build collaboration.

Thank you for your consideration of Ms. Lord's nomination.

Sincerely,

Susan C. McVey, Director Oklahoma Department of Libraries